(c) whether Government are aware of the reported move by the State Government of Delhi to privatise the water distribution system in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No such projects of reforming the Delhi Jal Board Water Distribution System is being sponsored by World Bank.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As far as Delhi Jal Board is concerned there is no proposal to privatize the water distribution system in Delhi.

(d) Does not arise.

Pending irrigation projects

721. SHRI NANDIYELLAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether an in-depth discussion took place between Prime Minister and the State Government of Andhra Pradesh at Hyderabad on 14th November, 2004 regarding 26 pending irrigation projects costing Rs. 46,000 crores for creating a potential of 60 lakhs acres and stabilizing 35 lakhs acres of existing Ayacut with a provision of drinking water to a population of 48 lakhs;

(b) whether in this regard, Andhra Pradesh sought the support of Central Government in the form of guarantees to raise debt finance, annuity payment, irrigation bonds and commercial loans; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister to Hyderabad, the irrigation development programme taken up by the State Government was apprised.

(b) and (c) No such proposal has been received in the Ministry of Water Resources.